Peach County Housers Mill Road MSWL
March 23, 1998

Introduction
The Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry (ATSDR) was petitioned by the Peach County Board of Commissioners to conduct a health consultation to determine if the potable water supplied to the residents of Fort Valley and Peach County by the Fort Valley Utilities Commission (FVUC) is in compliance with all applicable federal and state water quality standards. The community residents are concerned that the potable water supplied by FVUC is either currently or has the potential to become unsafe for consumption. The concerns are based on the proximity of the FVUCs municipal water supply production wells to the Housers Mill Landfill.

Site Description and History
Peach County is the owner/operator of a Municipal Solid Waste Landfill (MSWL) located on Housers Mill Road in Fort Valley, Georgia. Peach County operated the Housers Mill MSWL from February 1978 until April 1994. In March 1997, the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GEPD) directed Peach County to initiate an assessment of corrective measure at the MSWL. The directive was due to the detection of regulated chemical compounds in the landfill's perimeter groundwater monitor wells above Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) listed in the Georgia Rules for Safe Drinking Water. Tribble and Richardson, Inc. (T&R) conducted the assessment of corrective measures for Peach County to determine the nature and extent of the release. As part of the investigation, T&R collected groundwater samples from a private drinking water supply well owned by a resident living adjacent to the landfill.

Environmental Sampling/Results
Laboratory analytical results of the groundwater samples collected from the private well showed concentrations of 10 micrograms per liter (µg/L) vinyl chloride, 6 µ/gL dichloromethane, and 30 µ/g L lead. The MCL for vinyl chloride is 2 µ/gL. The MCL for dichloromethane is 5 µ/gL, and the Action Level for lead is 15 µ/g L. As a result, the county informed the property owner by the release and began supplying the household with an alternate source of water. T&R collected subsequent groundwater samples from 15 additional private wells located within ½ mile down gradient from the landfill. The laboratory analytical results of the groundwater samples indicated 13 of the private wells had detectable concentrations of several volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and/or heavy metals. As an interim measure, the county began providing an alternate source of drinking water to the affected households in April 1997.

In compliance with the State of Georgia Rules of Solid Waste Management, the county is currently preparing a corrective measures assessment report, which will include a remedial action plan for the Housers Mill Landfill. One objective of the remedial action plan is to provide the resident affected by the release with a permanent source of drinking water. At this time, the county believes the best long-term solution is to extend public water service to the affected residents rather than install and own a local municipal well.

Due to the concerns of the residents living near the site, the county health department offered to provide blood lead level tests for concerned residents. Sixteen residents elected to have the tests conducted. All sixteen results were below the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommended action level of 10 micrograms per deciliter (mg/dL). We found no other site-related biological data (e.g. blood, urine contaminant analyses) or health outcome data (epidemiologic surveillance reports, registries, community health investigations, or studies) collected for the site population.

Conclusions
After review of available data and discussions with GEPD and FVUC personnel, the public health threat category for water provided by FVUC can be classified as an ***indeterminate public health hazard***. Investigations are not complete and more sampling is required to determine the full extent of contaminated groundwater.

Recommendations
There are no recommendations at this time.